1.(Third time Amended) A method for protecting software from unauthorised use , comprising the steps of :

determining if identity means/information, is existing in a processing device ;

using a favourable result of said determination as a pre-condition for said processing device providing user access to said software desired to be protected ;

wherein said identity means/information being [essentially] used by a control means of said processing device for

enabling operation(s) for which rightful user(s) of said software desired to be protected has to be responsible ;

wherein access to said software desired to be protected is being provided without causing a said operation being performed and said identity means/information being specific to said rightful user(s) .

7. (Third time Amended) Protection software for use on a processing device, to protect software publicly distributed by a system against unauthorised use ;

said protection software comprising :

identity software [essentially] used on said processing device in enabling operation(s) for which rightful user(s) of said software desired to be protected has to be responsible ;

authorising software effectively under the control of the user thereof for, when executed, providing user access to said software desired to be protected ;

wherein said identity software and said authorising software are contained in said protection software in such a manner that said authorising software is prevented from being copied therefrom individually; and

wherein the improvement resides in said protection depends on no hardware specific to said user(s) and said identity software being specific to said rightful user(s) .

10. (Third time Amended) Authorising program/means used in a processing device, to protect other software against unauthorised use ;

said authorising program/means being [effectively under the control of the user thereof] for providing access to said software desired to be protected ;

wherein information [related] <u>specific</u> to rightful user(s) of said software desired to be protected, exists in said authorising program/means and being accessible to the user thereof ;

said information being capable of being used [essentially], but not in a form to be so used , by said processing device in enabling operation(s) for which said rightful user(s) has to be responsible .

12. (Second time Amended) A method for protecting software from unauthorised use , comprising the steps of :

obtaining a first information from a user of a processing device having an identity software/means ;

using said first information received being correct as a pre-condition for said processing device providing user access to said software desired to be protected;

wherein said identity software/means being for providing a second information [related] <u>specific</u> to rightful user(s) of said software desired to be protected, if said correct first information is being obtained from a user thereof ;

and said second information being [essentially] used by said processing device in enabling operation(s) for which said rightful user(s) has to be responsible ;

wherein access to said software desired to be protected is being provided without causing a said operation being performed.

14. (Second time Amended) A method for protecting software from unauthorised use, comprising the steps of:

authenticating identity information/means associated with a control means of a processing device;

using a favourable result of said authentication as a pre-condition for said control means providing user access to said software desired to be protected;

wherein said identity information/means being [essentially] used by said control means for enabling operation(s) for which rightful user(s) of said software desired to be protected has to be responsible;

wherein access to said software desired to be protected is being provided without causing a said operation being performed and said identity information/means being specific to said rightful user(s).

16. (Third time Amended) A method for protecting software distributed by a system from unauthorised use, comprising the steps of:

[a]   obtaining by a processing means of said system, confidential information of rightful user(s) of said software desired to be protected;]

[b)]

a)   creating [by said processing means,] first software with said confidential information of rightful user(s) of said software desired to be protected therein;

[c)]   [transferring from said system,]

b)   running said first software [to] on a processing device;

[d)   thereafter,]

c)   obtaining by said first software running on said processing device, first information from the user thereof;

[e)]

d)   determining by said first software, from said processing device second information related to the hardware or/and software thereof for future reference in

step f) below, in response to said first information obtained being consistent with said confidential information therein ;

[f)]

e)   thereafter, authenticating by second software, the processing device onwhich said second software is being used, basing on at least a part of said second information ;

[h)]

f)   using, by said second software, a favourable result of said authentication as a pre-condition for permitting use of said software desired to be protected on the processing device onwhich said second software is being used ;

wherein said confidential information is necessary for enabling electronic transaction(s) for which said rightful user(s) has to be responsible ; and said steps [d) to h)] c) to f) is being performed without causing a said [tranaction] transaction take place .

20. (Second time Amended) A method for protecting software distributed by a system from unauthorised use, comprising the steps of :

a)   creating by said system, first software ;
wherein "the presence of identity information/means which being [essentially] specific to a rightful user of said software desired to be protected and being used [by a control means of a processing device] for enabling operation(s) for which [a] said rightful user [of said software desired to be protected] has to be responsible, in [said] a processing device" ; is being used in the creation of said first software as a pre-condition for said first software to perform step c) below ;

b)   transferring from said system, said first software to said processing device ;

c)   determining by said first software running on said processing device meeting said precondition, first information related to the hardware or/and software of said processing device , for future reference in step e) below ;

d)   thereafter, determining by second software, from the processing device onwhich said second software is being used, second information related to the hardware or/and software thereof;

e)   determining by said second software, if said second information is consistent with said first information ;

f)   using by said second software, a favourable result of said determination of consistence as a pre-condition for permitting use of said software desired to be protected on the processing device onwhich said second software is being used ;

repeat at least said steps c) to f) if said result of said determination of consistence is not favourable, without causing **any** operation(s) for which said rightful user has to be responsible, being performed ;

wherein said first and second software being specific to said rightful user.